

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

JWB
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From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

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Boston, MA 02110-2804
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RECEIVED

JUL 28 2004

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION
(PCT Rule 66)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
05918-269WO1

**FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C.
BOSTON OFFICE**

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

21.07.2004

REPLY DUE

within 3 month(s)
from the above date of mailing

International application No.
PCT/US 0340287

International filing date (day/month/year)
16.12.2003

Priority date (day/month/year)

Docketed By Practice Systems
16.12.2003
Exp. date 10-21-04
foreign art 8-20-04

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
A61F15.00

Applicant
VELCRO INDUSTRIES B.V. et al.

Initials: *amw*

1. This written opinion is the **first** drawn up by this International Preliminary Examining Authority.
2. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basis of the opinion
II	<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority
III	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of unity of invention
V	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certain documents cited
VII	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certain defects in the international application
VIII	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certain observations on the international application

Docketed By Billing Secretary
Due Date: _____
Deadline: _____
Initials: *JSE*

3. The applicant is hereby invited to reply to this opinion.

When? See the time limit indicated above. The applicant may, before the expiration of that time limit, request this Authority to grant an extension, see Rule 66.2(d).

How? By submitting a written reply, accompanied, where appropriate, by amendments, according to Rule 66.3. For the form and the language of the amendments, see Rules 66.8 and 66.9.

Also: For an additional opportunity to submit amendments, see Rule 56.4.
For the examiner's obligation to consider amendments and/or arguments, see Rule 66.4 bis.
For an informal communication with the examiner, see Rule 66.6.

If no reply is filed, the international preliminary examination report will be established on the basis of this opinion.

4. The final date by which the international preliminary examination report must be established according to Rule 69.2 is: 16.04.2005

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:

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✓ *doc*